



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 441

Chairperson: Vickie McDonald
Committee: General Affairs
Date of Hearing: January 29, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 441 would direct the license fees collected from shippers of wine directly to consumers in Nebraska to the Winery and Grape Producers Promotional Fund.

Over the interim, the General Affairs Committee studied issues related to farm wineries. In the course of discussing how to better promote the state's wine industry, the idea to allocate the shipping license fees to the Grape and Winery Board arose. §53-124(11) sets the shipping license fee at \$500. Currently, there are 139 licensed direct shippers. The fee generates around \$69,500, funds which currently go to the General Fund.

Funding would be used for marketing and promotion, and research and education to benefit the state's grape and wine industries.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Vickie D. McDonald